REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 24, 2006. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Rejections

The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 3, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0002955 A1 for Gadbois ("*Gadbois*"). The Office Action rejects Claims 2, 4-6, 8 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gadbois* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,834,286 issued to Srinivasan ("*Srinivasan*"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons stated below.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for use in a Web Services system that includes providing a Web Services Directory having object classes and attributes. Attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class are defined. *Gadbois* does not disclose, teach or suggest each of the limitations.

The Office Action contends that *Gadbois* discloses these limitations and that "one object class is organizations and the corresponding attribute shown [in FIGURE 2 of *Gadbois*] (elements 222 and 224) is organization name, having values Organization 1 and Organization 2." Applicants respectfully disagree.

As an initial matter, Applicants point out that *Gadbois* does not define an object class entitled "organizations," as suggested by the Office Action. Instead, *Gadbois* discloses a "HOST" that has two organizations associated with it. *See Gadbois, FIGURE 2*. In rejecting Claim 1, the Office Action has arbitrarily selected two elements of FIGURE 2 (elements 222 and 224) and defined them as belonging to a non-existent object class of "organizations." Moreover, the Web Services Directory of Claim 1 includes object classes (plural) and attributes (plural). The Office Action only identifies a single object class ("organizations," according to the Office Action) in rejecting Claim 1.

In accordance with Claim 1, attributes (plural) of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class (singular) are defined. Thus, even assuming that the reasoning of the Office Action were true (a point with which Applicants disagree), each object class (Organization 1 and Organization 2, according to the Office Action) only includes a single attribute (the organization name, according to the Office Action). Thus, even if the Office Action's interpretation of *Gadbois* is correct, *Gadbois* does not disclose, teach, or suggest "defining attributes … which correspond to a specific object class." For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois*.

In order to establish a prima facie case of anticipation using *Gadbois*, the Office Action must identify a Web Services Directory that includes object classes (plural) and attributes (plural). Moreover, the Office Action must identify attributes (plural) of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class (singular). The Office Action does not do so.

Similar to Claim 1, Claim 7 includes a limitation regarding "defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class." As discussed above, *Gadbois* does not disclose, teach or suggest each of these limitations. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that Claim 7 is patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois*.

Claims 2-6 and 8-12 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from Claim 1 or Claim 7. Therefore, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 2-6 and 8-12 are patentably distinguishable from *Gadbois* for example, for the same reasons discussed above with regard to their respective base claims. Thus, all of the rejections of the Office Action are based upon an incorrect interpretation of the teachings of *Gadbois*. *Srinivasan* fails to cure this deficiency.
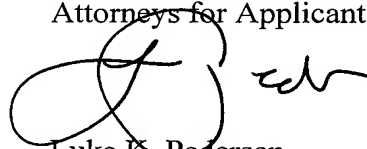
Conclusions

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants believe no fee is due. However, should there be a fee discrepancy, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **02-0384** of **Baker Botts L.L.P.**

Respectfully submitted,

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